

The Clovis News

Oldest Established Paper in Curry County

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CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO, THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 1919

\$1.50 PER YEAR

\$117,640 IS OUR QUOTA FOR 1919 WAR STAMPS

John N. Gambrell, special representative of the treasury department, was in Clovis the first of the week in the interest of the 1919 War Savings Stamp issue. Curry County's quota of stamp sales will be \$117,640, or about fifty-two per cent of what it was last year. The following have been chosen to direct the campaign for the year:

Alex Shipley, County Chairman.
Mrs. G. R. Woodward, County Chairman of the Woman's Division.
J. H. Barry, County Director of Sales Agents.
Rev. Ted P. Hollifield, County Director of War Savings Societies.

Curry County made the second best record of any county in New Mexico in the sale of War Savings Stamps last year and it is hoped that we will even exceed this record for 1919.

PAVING TALK

At the Monday night meeting of the city council the paving petition for Main and other streets was rejected because the petitioners asked the city to pay for the street intersections which the city is not financially able to do. A petition is now being circulated to pave with the property owners paying for the intersections as was done on North Main street.

THE TAX RATE IN NEW MEXICO

(By Rupert F. Asplund, Director of New Mexico Taxpayers' Assn.)

Are New Mexico tax rates high? It may be said that they are no higher in New Mexico than elsewhere. However, any just comparison must take into consideration the percentage of full value upon which property is assessed. In New Mexico it is now felt that all property that does not actually escape taxation is assessed at pretty nearly its actual market value. Assuming that this is true the New Mexico tax rate is high and every mill added to the present rate increases the burden of the conscientious taxpayer. Taking the municipality or the school district in each county in which the highest rate is paid, we find that upon each \$100, such municipality or school district pays for state, county, municipal and school district purposes amounts as follows:

Bernalillo	\$2.85
Chaves	2.51
Cofax	2.71
Curry	2.90
De Baca	2.43
Dona Ana	2.63
El Paso	3.03
Grant	2.77
Guadalupe	2.27
Lea	2.70
Lincoln	2.12
McKinley	2.12
Mora	2.45
Navajo	3.83
Quay	2.80
Roosevelt	3.04
San Arriba	2.24
Sandoval	1.80
San Juan	3.72
San Miguel	2.46
Santa Fe	2.49
Sierra	2.25
Socorro	2.75
Taos	2.23
Torrance	2.07
Union	3.32
Valencia	1.48

According to these figures compiled by the taxpayers' association, only two counties, Sandoval and Valencia, have less than a two per cent tax. The majority of the counties show tax rates of approximately two and a half per cent, while taxpayers in certain districts in other counties pay from two and a half per cent to three per cent. In one town the rate approaches four per cent.

With the increase of two mills for municipal purposes, an increase of one mill in the state school levy, the addition of one-quarter mill for the health department, and higher county school and road levies, it is not unreasonable to estimate that for 1919 50 cents for each \$100 may have to be added to the rates given above. If the assessed valuation for the state shrinks to

\$320,000,000, as many fear, even higher rates may be anticipated. In other words, there will be few cities and towns in the state where the tax rate will be less than three per cent.

PLANT SHADE TREES

All during the month of March trees can be planted in this section. Shade trees should be planted all over Clovis this spring. Black locusts are the best shade trees for this section by long odds and this variety will live long after others have died from lack of moisture.

SCHOOL NOTES

High School Statistics of Interest
Some very interesting statistics have been gathered recently concerning the work of the high school. During the first semester the freshmen boys averaged eighty per cent, the freshmen girls, seventy-nine per cent; the sophomore boys eighty-three, the sophomore girls, eighty-two; the junior boys eighty, the junior girls eighty-four, the senior boys eighty-four, and the senior girls eighty-three. This shows the boys to excel in all but the junior class. At the same time the boys' basketball team averaged eighty-one, while the girls' team averaged seventy-eight. Twelve per cent of the freshmen boys failed the first half of the year, twenty-eight per cent of the girls of the same class failed; there were no failures of the sophomore boys, but nine per cent of the girls failed; twenty per cent of the junior boys failed, and only five per cent of the junior girls failed; all senior boys carried their work while five per cent of the senior girls failed. Here again the boys have the lowest percentage of failure in all but the senior class.

The highest average the first half of the year in the freshmen class was made by Ruby Latta whose average was ninety-four; the highest sophomore average was made by Clarence Hobdy whose average was ninety-two; the highest junior average was made by Margaret Givens whose average was ninety-three; the highest senior average was made by Nola Owen whose average was ninety-five. Here the individual record shows the girls to be leading in all except the sophomore class. A senior made the highest average for the semester, and a freshman was next.

The median, or mid-way, number of freshmen have averages between eighty and eighty-four. The same is true of the sophomore and seniors. The junior class median number have averages between eighty-five and eighty-nine. The greatest number of freshmen of any one age is twenty-three, who are fifteen years of age. For the sophomores the greatest number of any one age is twelve, who are also fifteen years of age. For the juniors the greatest number is seventeen, who are sixteen years of age, and for the seniors the greatest number of any one age is ten who are seventeen years of age. There are two freshmen who are only twelve years of age, and one freshman who is nineteen years of age, these two ages representing the extremes. One sophomore is thirteen, and one twenty-two, representing the extremes in this class; two juniors are fourteen, and one junior twenty, the extreme ages; and five seniors are sixteen, and two nineteen, their extreme ages.

There were more failures in Mathematics the first semester than in any other class. The salaries of the teachers divided by the number of sixty minute hours of the average attendance of the pupils give a cost to the district of eleven dollars and sixty-nine cents per student hour.

We trust the above statistics will be of interest to our patrons.

Job Printing at the News Office.

POULTRY EXPERT TO BE HERE MARCH 15

Prof. Taylor, of the Extension Service will be in Clovis on Saturday, March 15th and will address the poultry raisers of the county. He will assist in the organization of a poultry raisers' association in Curry County. The meeting will be held at the court house at 2:00 p. m. and those interested in raising better poultry are invited to be present.

MORE CATTLE IN STATE THAN YEAR AGO

According to the official bureau of crop estimates, just published, New Mexico is credited with having 170,525 horses in 1910, with an average value of \$43.83 per head. On January 1, 1919, there were 261,000 horses in New Mexico with an average value of \$62.00 per head. This means an increase of about 60 per cent in the number of horses since the census year in the United States. It is also interesting to note that New Mexico horses have increased in value \$18.17 per head during this period. This is rather remarkable in view of the decline in prices of \$13.00 for the United States, as mentioned above. This is conclusive evidence that the state is breeding a better quality of horses. It is interesting to note, however, that our horses are yet worth \$33.48 per head less than the average for the United States. This shows that there is still much room for improvement. New Mexico has too many cheap horses to feed. Of the 261,000 in the state, there are 150,000 on the tax rolls. There are many Indian ponies in the state that are non-assessable.

Mules

There were 15,000 mules in New Mexico during the census year, with an average value of \$97.50 per head. On January 1, 1919, there were 20,000 mules in the state, with an average value of \$200 per head. This shows a decline in price of \$55.50 per head, which seems to indicate a failure on the part of the state to improve its grade of mules to the same degree that has been done with its horses. New Mexico mules are worth \$43.39 less per head than average price for mules in the United States.

Cattle

The census of 1910 showed 1,024,202 cattle other than milk cows in the state. On January 1, 1919, the number estimated for the state was 1,325,000. This shows only 3 per cent increase in the ten years. The number of cattle in the state has fluctuated during this period. In 1913 the government estimate was 801,000. Since that time the number has gradually increased, and an increase of 75,000 for January 1, 1919 is shown over January 1, 1918. In spite of the severe drought in the state during the past year, it is possible that the apparent increase of 75,000 as shown by the government estimates may be due to more accurate sources of estimates for the state, and a failure in the past to estimate the numbers as large as they should have been. In 1917 there were 1,225,788 cattle assessed in the state. In 1918, 1,315,020 were assessed. It is rather interesting to see that the assessed number approaches very close to the government estimates. The heavy losses in the state during the past summer and winter will doubtless result in lowering the tax figures on cattle.

The 1910 census reported 51,451 milk cows in the state on January 1, 1918, there were 84,000, or an increase during this period of about 63 per cent. The value per head has increased from \$33.10 in the census year to \$75.00 in 1918. It is very likely that the 84,000 cows estimated as milk cows for 1918 include many range cows that are milked for only a very short lactation period, and the number actually kept for milk will be somewhat less than this figure. The value per head had more than doubled, and in spite of the increased price of all livestock, this marked increase undoubtedly indicates improvement in quality.

Sheep

According to the census this state had 3,346,084 sheep in 1910. The government estimated 3,135,000 on January 1, 1919. This estimate probably indicates a considerable number of sheep that are owned in Texas, Colorado, Utah and Arizona, but are grazed part of the time in this state. The number of sheep have rapidly diminished since the census year and is likely to continue, as the country is settled and the ranges become smaller. One million eight hundred and forty thousand sheep were assessed in the state last year. There are a great many Indian sheep in the state that are not subject to taxation. The average value per head of the sheep during the census year was \$3.61, compared to

\$8.50 January 1, 1919. This makes an aggregate value for the sheep at present of \$26,648,090 compared with \$12,072,000 in 1910.

Hogs

There were 45,400 hogs in the state in 1910, compared to 93,000 on January 1, 1919. The average value per head in 1910 was \$5.97, compared to \$19.00 on January 1, 1919.

UP TO THE GOVERNOR

The State Senate this week passed House Bill 214 providing that the revenues received from public utilities owned by municipalities cannot be used except for three purposes: to create a sinking fund, to repair and maintain the plant, and to pay the interest on bonds issued for the purchase of the plant. The bill is now up to Governor Larrazolo. It would prevent cities from using the profits of their water plants to pay the deficiencies of other departments.

A BIG DAY

Last Saturday was a big day in Clovis. The streets were crowded all day and the merchants did a good business. More people were in town than any day since before the flu epidemic last fall.

BOYKIN A DIRECTOR IN CITIZENS BANK

S. J. Boykin has recently purchased stock in the Citizens Bank and has been elected a director in that institution. Mr. Boykin is an old time citizen of Clovis and has for years been prominent in business and banking circles in Clovis. Mr. Boykin was elected a director in the bank last week.

FARM BUREAU AFTER RURAL PHONES

It is understood that the Curry County Farm Bureau is working on a plan to get rural telephones in this county. If this organization accomplishes no other thing during 1919 it will be well worth every financial expenditure that has been made to keep it up. The rural telephones are needed badly in Curry County and possibly no other one thing would add more to the convenience and profit, as well as pleasure of the farmer and his family, than this one improvement to rural conditions. Here's hoping that the Farm Bureau is able to get the co-operation that will help put the telephone movement over. The rural telephone marches hand in hand with good schools and churches in the development of the country.

MONTHLY PAY DAY BILL

Santa Fe, March 4.—Waiting ninety days for pay in these days of H. C. L. has been the cloud that has hovered over the dispositions of all county officials of New Mexico for many moons. Through the clouds now bursts the light however, for Senator Mersfelder, Democratic member from Curry County, in Bill No. 16 provides that all county officials shall be paid monthly, together with all their deputies. The same bill also provides that salaries of County Superintendents or schools shall likewise be paid monthly out of the general county school fund of the respective counties. Senator Mersfelder's correspondence is rather voluminous at present.

DANCING SCHOOL

Miss Dillman's Dancing School, every Thursday and Friday, opening Thursday, March 13th. Lessons after 10:00 a. m. Social Dance, Thursday night 8:00 o'clock, W. O. W. Hall. 3-6-19

BAPTISM, MARRIAGE, DEATH

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., tells a story about a miner who explained one day to a bishop why he never went to church. "You see, bishop, it's like this," the miner said: "the first time I went to church they threw water in my face, and the second time I went they tied me up to a woman I've had to keep ever since." The bishop smiled grimly. "And the third time you go," he said, "they'll throw dirt on you."

NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITAL

(By A. M. Hove)

Santa Fe, February 28.—House Joint Resolution No. 13, introduced by A. H. Carter of Socorro County, takes a shot at the railroad situation and the right of states. It holds that the future development of material resources of the state depends much on reasonable opportunities for profit to encourage pioneer railroad building in the state. The resolution favors federal regulation within the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, but holds that the prosperity of business in the state depends upon adequate transportation. This can only be attained by a state policy allowing profits proportionate to the risks involved in pioneer railroad building. In other words the resolution favors control by the state of intra-state railroad business that the state may by wise regulation encourage transportation development. The resolution opposes the McAdoo five year government control plan.

House Bill No. 235, introduced by Trujillo and Gonzales, defines the qualifications of county school superintendents. To be eligible to hold this office it is required that the candidate must hold at least a second grade certificate, have five years experience in educational work, and three years experience in New Mexico. This may be hard on the politician, but it would be better for the schools. Senators Mersfelder of Curry and A. V. Leeper of Cofax favored the same bill in the Senate.

A license tax of \$25.00 on each pool table is proposed by Senator Mirabal, the money to go to the school fund. He also proposes minors under the age of twenty years shall be prohibited from frequenting pool rooms and imposes penalty on proprietors of pool rooms, allowing such minors in their place of business.

Santa Fe, March 1.—Both houses are speeding up as the time gets shorter and the calendars longer. The Senate has only eighty-four bills introduced and many of these have been concurred in by the house. The house has 336 bills before it and possibly a third of these have been passed and sent to the Senate. Quite a number of house bills have been tabled in Senate committees or killed on the floor.

The Senate passed house bill No. 225 yesterday. This codifies all laws relating to irrigation districts and wipes out a lot of contradictions and obscurities in the various laws now on the books. It also passed house bill No. 77, defining conspiracy and providing for proceedings in quo warranto, which act will simplify election contests for one thing; house bill No. 85, creating a board of dental examiners and regulating the practice of dentistry, the cost to be provided for through license fees; house bill No. 79, prohibiting the use of the flag for advertising purposes and the display of red flags and other insignia of anti-government organizations; house bill No. 214, providing for the application of receipts of municipal utilities to proper expenditures for such utilities.

The attention of the leading committees are being given to the appropriation bill, the public health measure, the educational bills, the mine tax bills of which there are several, child labor, workman's compensation bill, etc.

The matter of providing employment for returning soldiers and state development to provide rural homes for soldiers is also leading. Senate bill No. 29, creating a soldiers' settlement board etc. has been on the calendar for several days. In the house a more ambitious bill on the same matter has been introduced, carrying provision for \$400,000.00 to carry out the purposes of the bill. Something along this line, providing for co-operation with the United States under the terms of the Lane bill is sure to become a law. It is really a question of finance.

It is now quite clear that there will be strict economy in the appropriations for the next two years. It is likely that there will be no increase in assessed valuation the next year, but rather a decrease. It is certain that the mines will not provide as

(Continued on last page)

TWO TO FIVE YEARS

Judge Brice over-ruled the motion for a new trial in the John Woody case, who was convicted of manslaughter last week, and gave a sentence of from two to five years in the penitentiary. The case will be appealed to the supreme court and Woody in the meanwhile is out on bond pending the decision of the higher court.

CAR STOLEN BUT RECOVERED IN TEXAS

The big Hudson Six car belonging Harry Stonehill was stolen Monday night from the New State Auto Co. The car was not missed until Tuesday when Mr. Stonehill came in for it. Local officers immediately put out a number of telegrams with the result that the car was located at Chillicothe, Texas. Rolla Hester is charged with having stolen the car but he made his get-away from the officers there. Mr. Stonehill went down Thursday to bring his auto home.

SKARDA HAS PURCHASED WISMILLER HARDWARE

W. Wisnall has sold his hardware business to A. W. Skarda who will take charge of the business next week. Mr. Wisnall gets a farm northeast of town from Mr. Skarda. Mr. Wisnall plans to leave soon for Burk Burnett to look after his oil interests near there.

Mr. Skarda will no doubt make a success of the business he is just purchasing. He has been cashier of the First National Bank for several years and has many friends who wish him success in his new business.

STIMULATING INTEREST IN FARM BUREAU

Beginning with last Friday County Agent Peterson and County Superintendent Buckley have been visiting several places in the county in the interest of the Curry County Farm Bureau and school matters. Up until Thursday they had visited Prairie Valley school house, Bellview Ranch, Grady and Moxe. Their schedule for the rest of the meetings is as follows: Friday, Mar. 7, Enterprise school house 1:00 o'clock p. m. Monday, March 10th, Locust Grove School House 1:00 o'clock p. m. Tuesday, March 11th, Pleasant Hill School House, 1:00 o'clock p. m. Wednesday, March 12th, Claude School House 1:00 o'clock p. m. Thursday, March 13th, Bryan School House 1:00 o'clock p. m. Friday, March 14th, St. Vrain School House 1:00 o'clock p. m. Friday, March 21st, Melrose School House 1:00 o'clock p. m.

The purpose of these meetings is to stimulate interest in the Farm Bureau and to plan a program of work to be carried out in the county during the coming season. Probably two of the most important problems to be discussed, is that of rural telephone and a farmers warehouse. These problems should interest every farmer who has anything to dispose of. It is hoped that every farmer will make a special effort to attend all of these meetings. County Superintendent Buckley will be there to discuss any school matter that might come up.

NOTICE

We request, yes, urge that every member of the O. E. S. be present Friday night, March 7th, 1919. Most especially we do urge that every officer be in his or her place for the evening. We have very important business that must be settled. Refreshments of the very best will be served. Come! Come at 8 o'clock. Sec'y. of O. E. S.

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DOG TAX INCREASED

A dog is going to be an expensive pet in Clovis from now on. The City Council passed an ordinance Monday night putting a tax of \$5.00 on every male dog, and \$10.00 on every female dog. This ordinance will go into effect as soon as it has been legally published.